

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05

L-02 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-01 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 OMB-01 SAJ-01 /106 W

----- 115098

R 311758Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6317

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD EC GATT

SUBJECT: FRENCH VIEWS ON AGRICULTURE AND OTHER MTN
ISSUES.

REFS: STATE 20100 AND 21477

1. WE CALLED ON COLLIN (IN CHARGE OF MULTILATERAL
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ECONOMIC RELATIONS IN MINFIN) AS PER REFTELS. HE

REAFFIRMED ESTABLISHED FRENCH POSITION THAT ALL ASPECTS OF AGRICULTURAL DISCUSSIONS SHOULD BE SEPARATED STRUCTURALLY IN MTN. FRENCH POSITION, WHICH HE SAID IS ALSO EC POSITION, IS ABSOLUTELY INFLEXIBLE ON THIS POINT. FRENCH PREFER CONTINUATION OF PRESENT STRUCTURE WITH ALL AGRICULTURAL MATTERS TO BE HANDLED BY THE 3E COMMITTEE. THEY DO NOT SEE WHY THE ISSUE NEEDS TO BE RAISED IN THE TNC. CONTINUATION OF EXISTING STRUCTURE APPEARS TO THEM TO BE PERFECTLY COMPATIBLE WITH SECTION 103 OF TRADE ACT. COLLIN REFERRED TO SECTION 104 WHICH FRENCH ANALYSTS OF TRADE ACT FEEL WOULD PERMIT U.S. TO WORK WITHIN EXISTING STRUCTURE. COLLIN SAID IF U.S. INSISTS ON PRESSING THIS ISSUE AT THE TNC IT CAN ONLY LEAD TO AN IMPASSE. FRANCE, HE SAID, IS SINCERELY INTERESTED IN SEEING MTN GET OFF TO GOOD START AND WOULD NOT WANT THEIR POSITION ON THIS MATTER TO BE INTERPRETED AS OBSTRUCTIONISM.

2. ON TARIFF HARMONIZATION, COLLIN SAID FRANCE IS LESS INTERESTED IN MATHEMATICAL FORMULAS THAN IN THE

PRESERVATION OF THE BASIC PRINCIPLE THAT THE HIGHER THE DUTY THE GREATER THE CUT. THEY DO NOT AGREE THAT LOW TARIFFS SHOULD GO TO ZERO AND THEY BELIEVE RECIPROCITY CAN BE ACHIEVED WITHIN SOME GENERAL FORMULATION WHICH ALLOWS FOR HARMONIZATION. THEY WOULD LIKE TO SEE TNC BEGIN DISCUSSION OF GENERAL FORMULA AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

3. ON SAFEGUARDS, COLLIN FELT THE EC WOULD BE ABLE TO DEVISE A FORMULA WHICH WOULD SATISFY GERMAN AND ITALIAN OBJECTIONS TO DISCRIMINATION.

4. RE UNCTAD PARTICIPATION, COLLIN REFERRED TO UNHAPPINESS OF SOME LDC DELEGATES AT GENEVA, BUT HE SAID HE THOUGHT THE INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES SHOULD HOLD TO THE ALREADY AGREED POSITION.

5. EMBASSY STILL HAS NOT RECEIVED COPIES OF PL 93-618. WE WOULD LIKE SEVERAL COPIES AIRPOUCHED SOONEST. FRENCH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MINISTRIES HAVE COPIES PROVIDED BY FRENCH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON.

RUSH

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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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